

CALIFORNIA MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

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NOTICES AND REPORTS

Woman's Auxiliary Reports on Year's Activities

Believing in the wisdom of the words of Dr. Stephen E. Gavin of Wisconsin, who recently told the women's auxiliary to the medical association in that state that "the wives of doctors are admitted to be the most powerful and tactful force between the medical profession and the public," the Woman's Auxiliary to the California Medical Association during the past year has exerted itself to expand and strengthen that force in California.

This was the keynote of the annual report which was delivered by Mrs. H. E. Henderson, president of the Auxiliary, to the C. M. A. at its 76th Annual Convention.

As evidence of the increasing recognition of the value of women's auxiliaries to medical associations, Mrs. Henderson noted that at the time of the American Medical Association convention in San Francisco last year, it was reported that the National Auxiliary's office was to be moved to the A. M. A. headquarters in Chicago and that the Trustees of the A. M. A. thereafter would meet with the Board of Directors of the Auxiliary to cooperate in planning the program of the Auxiliary.

Mrs. Henderson noted in her report that recognition already had been given "by the California Medical Association to its Auxiliary by its offer to print and mail our magazine, *The Courier*." The Auxiliary's president said that the members are "very proud of our bi-monthly magazine, which has a handsome cover in colors and about 14 pages of contents. We have received a number of compliments on it from other state auxiliaries."

Reporting on the organization of the California Auxiliary, Mrs. Henderson said that 802 members have been added in the past year, bringing the total to 3,116. The Auxiliary has local auxiliaries to 25 of the 40 county medical associations in the state, with membership ranging from ten in the smallest to 950 in the largest.

Reporting further on the county organizations, Mrs. Henderson said:

"In Los Angeles County there are now three branches, since the San Fernando Valley Branch of the Los Angeles County Medical Society has recently asked for an Auxiliary of its own, and an enthusiastic group of young women have organized there. If all the County Medical Societies took an equal interest, all their Auxiliaries would be strong. A few of the smaller ones are not. Merced Auxiliary has not recovered from its war difficulties and has not held a meeting for more than a year, so it is not now counted in our numbers. Tulare, Riverside, Ventura, and San Luis Obispo are struggling, principally for lack of encouragement and direction from their County Medical Societies. I do not say this in a spirit of censure, but because I wish to bespeak your help for them. San Bernardino County is the only large county which does not choose to have an Auxiliary. All the others are very active and we have had a wonderful growth in membership. One Auxiliary, that in Humboldt County, has a membership of 36 while its medical society has 37 members. This is a record which we all wish we might approach."

As to political activities, Mrs. Henderson said:

"We have been very much interested in legislation. San Diego and San Joaquin counties have had regular Study Groups on the subject, and Riverside has become a study group as a whole, its members making reports on national and state compulsory health insurance plans, on voluntary plans, and on the A. M. A. Ten-Point Program. All report programs at their regular meetings on some or all of these subjects, and local members are active in debates and programs of other women's groups. The chairman of the Pasadena Branch, Los Angeles County, has spoken more than 100 times to various groups against compulsory health insurance plans. Four County Auxiliaries helped their Medical Societies in active legislative campaigns last summer. Another has furnished arguments against the Warren plan to its Republican Central Committee and its

legislators. Sacramento and San Diego counties collected \$1,375 in campaign funds from their doctors, and Alameda and Sacramento counties mailed out 91,500 pieces of campaign literature to patients over their doctors' signatures."

Mrs. Henderson said that at the suggestion of the Advisory Committee of the C. M. A., the Women's Auxiliary has "worked through our clubs, especially the Parent-Teacher Association, so that they would not again endorse the compulsory health insurance programs." As to the present attitude of the California Congress of Parents and Teachers, Mrs. Henderson said that through conversations with officials of that organization she has learned that they would be interested only in a health bill which would provide free physical examinations for all children. "Since the present [Warren plan] bill does not do this, they will take no action on it," the Auxiliary's president said. On the other hand, she said that "the California League of Women Voters has endorsed the policy of compulsory health insurance but does not approve the present bill because it does not go far enough."

In concluding her report on the political activities of the Auxiliary, Mrs. Henderson said: "I think I can safely promise that the members of the active Auxiliaries in this state will watch the actions of these organizations and do their best to influence them in what they think is the right direction."

Reporting on the efforts of the Auxiliary to collect money for the Medical Benevolence Fund, Mrs. Henderson said that she had received a report from the Auxiliary's Medical Benevolence chairman that "considerable ignorance of the meaning of Medical Benevolence has been encountered among doctors whose wives are not members of the Auxiliary and in doctors who are not married." The committee chairman further reported that although the Medical Benevolence Committee had taken for granted that the members of the C. M. A. were informed, "unfortunately this is anything but true."

The Auxiliary president said that she called this report to the attention of the C. M. A. "simply because I think perhaps you are unaware of this con-

dition and will wish to do something to correct it."

"For total philanthropies," Mrs. Henderson continued, "the Auxiliaries have raised and donated over \$6,000, including money for student loan funds, community chests, the various national health associations, the Red Cross, charity hospitals of several types, for the Public Health League, the Chaplain's Fund, Girl Scouts and children's camp funds, and for an audiometer for the schools of Santa Cruz County."

She concluded her report by presenting a check for \$2,609 for the Medical Benevolence Fund.

In Memoriam

BLUM, STANFORD. Died in San Francisco, May 27, 1947, age 74, of a heart attack. Graduate of the University of California Medical School, Berkeley-San Francisco, 1896. Licensed in California in 1896. Doctor Blum was a member of the San Francisco County Medical Society, the California Medical Association, and a Fellow of the American Medical Association.



LUTON, GEORGE ROSCOE. Died in Santa Barbara, May 19, 1947, age 67, after an illness of several months. Graduate of the Medical Faculty of Trinity University, Toronto, Ontario, 1904. Licensed in California in 1905. Doctor Luton was a member of the Santa Barbara County Medical Society, the California Medical Association, and a Fellow of the American Medical Association.



MAGHY, CHARLES ALFORD. Died in San Diego, April 27, 1947, age 61. Graduate of the University of Illinois College of Medicine, Chicago, 1905. Licensed in California in 1920. Doctor Maghy was a member of the San Diego County Medical Society, the California Medical Association, and the American Medical Association.



SMITH, LLOYD ERNEST. Died in Glendale, May 2, 1947, age 58, of a heart attack. Graduate of the College of Medical Evangelists, Loma Linda-Los Angeles, 1925. Licensed in California in 1925. Doctor Smith was a member of the San Bernardino County Medical Society, the California Medical Association, and a Fellow of the American Medical Association.

